

# News Release

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## **RPU Employees Fighting Hunger in Riverside To Be Featured on NBC Show “The Biggest Loser”**

**Riverside, Calif.** – A group of Riverside Public Utilities (RPU) employees are helping to fight hunger in Riverside by shedding a few pounds as part of the Pound for Pound Challenge sponsored by the NBC reality weight loss program “The Biggest Loser” and the hunger-relief charity Feeding America.

Through the challenge, Feeding America will donate a pound of food to Riverside’s Second Harvest Food Bank, at no cost to participants, based on the weight loss or maintenance pledges that are made with the group online. As the nation’s leading domestic hunger-relief charity, Feeding America provides assistance to more than 37 million low-income individuals and families with the fuel to survive and even thrive.

A team of 91 RPU staff members pledged 1,761 total pounds through the program to become the leading team in the Inland Empire. This achievement brought the team “Spotlight Organization” status and an appearance on the NBC show, which will air on Tuesday, May 10.

“We are extremely proud of the efforts made by our employees and the accomplishments that Team RPU achieved during this challenge which will directly benefit residents in Riverside,” said RPU General Manager David H. Wright. “This type of teamwork shows our customers that, beyond our day to day activities of providing quality water and energy services, staff are also committed to improving the quality of life for everyone in our city.”

Meanwhile, the team’s food donation totals won’t just end with the Feed America challenge efforts. At the start of the program RPU’s Deputy General Manager Steve Badgett, who is in charge of the utility’s energy delivery division, committed to personally match Team RPU’s pound for pound totals. Not to be out done, and to foster some friendly competition, RPU Assistant General Manager Kevin Milligan, who oversees the city’s water division, responded by committing to doubling the team’s mark – thus increasing Team RPU’s total donations to over 5,200 pounds.

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Established in 1895, Riverside Public Utilities is a consumer-owned water and electric utility governed by a board of nine community volunteers that provides high quality, reliable services to over 106,000 metered electric customers and 64,000 metered water customers throughout the City of Riverside. The Utility is committed to increased use of renewable energy

resources and sustainable living practices that help reduce environmental impacts within the City of Riverside and the state of California.

[www.RiversidePublicUtilities.com](http://www.RiversidePublicUtilities.com)

[www.GreenRiverside.com](http://www.GreenRiverside.com)

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